

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Budget and Production Plan for 1954

DATE DISTR. 16 April 1954

NO. OF PAGES 1

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

REFERENCES

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1. On 28 January 1954, the 1954 East German budget plan was approved by the Council of Ministries. It provides for a budget reserve of 1,000,000,000 DME. Plans for nationalized factories have been stretched almost to the breaking point, since the profit to be made is high and losses have been reduced to a minimum. The reason given for this is that the State needs a great deal of money to carry out political tasks for 1954.
2. Moreover, they are thinking of lowering prices further in 1954, with an eye to the elections which possibly will take place. For the same reason rationing is to be abolished completely.
3. East German officials have determined that the 1954 plan is not developing as expected. Imports, especially imports of coke and coal, are below plan and the production of fuels has sunk. Briquets and coal, which were originally to be made available to the civilian population, have been turned over to industry.

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